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INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 L-03 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EUR-12 IGA-02 EB-07

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R 092135Z FEB 76 FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7093 INFO USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL SANTIAGO 1045

EO 11652: GDS

USMISSION USUN

TAGS: PINS, SHUM, CI

SUBJ: UNHRC MEETING: CHILEAN DECREE ON RIGHTS OF DETAINEES

REF: A) STATE 30458 B) SANTIAGO 833 C) SANTIAGO 968 D) SANTIAGO 756

- 1. EMBASSY AGREES WITH DEPARTMENT'S OBSERVATION THAT MINISTRY OF INTERIOR'S JAN 29 DECREE PROVIDING SOME SAFE-GUARDS FOR PERSONS PICKED UP UNDER STATES OF EMERGENCY DOES NOT ADDRESS ALL OF THE PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED IN PREVIOUS REPORTS FROM HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS. THAT WAS NOT THE DECREE'S PURPOSE. REF C DESCRIBES NUMBER OF POSSIBLE WAYS TO CIRCUMVENT EVEN THOSE GUARANTEES SET FORTH IN THE NEW DECREE. WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY RESERVED JUDGMENT ON THE TRUE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NEW PROVISIONS UNTIL WE HAVE EVIDENCE OF WHAT THE GOC IS ACTUALLY DOING (REFS C AND D).. WE DO NOT HAVE THAT EVIDENCE
- 2. EMBASSY DOES HAVE A QUESTION ON WHAT TACTICAL APPROACH BEST SERVES OUR INTEREST. WE SEEK TO MOVE GOC TOWARD CONFIDENTIAL

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IMPROVING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, AND SUCH MOVEMENT WILL

MOST LIKELY BE MADE IN NUMBER OF STEPS. IMPROVING PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS APPEARS ONE LOGICAL MEASURE.

- 3. IT IS ONE THING TO MENTION NEW PROVISIONS WHILE RESERVING ULTIMATE JUDGMENT ON THEM PENDING EVIDENCE OF ACTUAL ENFORCEMENT; IT IS ANOTHER TO IGNORE EXISTENCE OF NEW LAW OR ATTACK IT AS INADEQUATE AND INEFFECTUAL ON ITS FACE. WE BELIEVE THAT A US PRESENTATION BASED UPON FORMER COURSE IS MORE LIKELY TO PRODUCE MEANINGFUL RESULTS THAN PURSUING LATTER TACTIC.
- 4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING COPIES OF ANY ANALYSES FROM EITH DEPARTMENT OR GENEVA (REF A, PARA 3) REGARDING JAN 29 DECREE. POPPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: LAW, HUMAN RIGHTS, POLITICAL PRISONERS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 09 FEB 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SANTIA01045

Document Number: 1976SANTIA01045
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760049-0676

From: SANTIAGO Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760267/aaaachgg.tel Line Count: 76 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION ARA Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 30458, 76 SANTIAGO 833, 76 SANTIAGO 968
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 07 MAY 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by saccheem>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006